the Link

Tuesday, November 24, 1992.
Volume 13, Number 18
Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

AGENDA

The Agenda is a FREE service to publicize Concordia-related events. Space priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info. at our office, room H-649 in the Hall Building, or mail it in, indicating AGENDA on the envelope. Deadlines are 5 pm Friday for Tuesday issues, and 5pm Wednesday for Friday issues.

Tuesday, November 24

Lecture: Patricia Eshkibok, Lylee Williams, and Josie Curotte from the Native Para-Judicial Services of Quebec will be speaking on "Natives in the Courts and Corrections" and "Traditional Justice Systems." 8:30pm, in H-403.

Lecture: the Sparklers of Concordia present Stephen Bindman, Legal affairs correspondent for Southam News to speak on "The Charter of Rights and Freedoms." In H-405, at 2:30pm.

Wednesday, November 25

Lecture: Professor Daniel Salée, School of Community and Public Affairs, to speak on "The Shaping of Quebec Politics and Society: Revisiting the Historiography." at noon in the Basement lounge of the School of community and Public Affairs. 2149 Mackay.

"Entertainment? Or an Education in Violence?" Speaker presentations on the effects of violence in the media. Discussion to follow. 7pm, in H-110. Presented by RAVEN, info: 848-7585.

Free films! The Loyola Film Series continues with "The Grey Fox" at 7pm, and "The Man who shot Liberty Valance" at 8:50pm. At the FC Smith Auditorium. Info: 848-3878. Presented by the Department of Communication Studies in conjunction with the Conservatory of Cinematographic Art.

Thursday, November 26

Film screening to benefit the Native Friendship Centre and the Native Women's Shelter: the Montreal premiere of "Women in the Shadows." H-110, at 7pm. Suggested donation: $5.

Brenda Longfellow presents her film Gerta for the Cicely Yalden Memorial Lecture. At the FC Smith Auditorium, 8pm. Info: Jody Berland at 858-2557 or Kim Sawchuk at 848-2550.

Lecture: Dr. Erich W. Vogt, director of Triumf, on "The Canadian Kaon Factory: The New Physics of Quarks, Leptons, and Unified Forces." 2:45pm, at the Cinema, McConnell building. Presented by the Physics Students' Association and the Department of Physics.

Sale of books and Used clothing, mezzanine of the Hall building to benefit the Tyndale-St.George's Community Centre ant the TESL Centre Students' Association.

Friday, November 27

Film screening to benefit the Montreal Sexual Assault Centre: "Wisecracks," a witty 90 minute documentary which explores the world of female comedians on stage and beyond. 7pm, H-110. No reserved seating. Suggested donation of $5.

GENERAL

Buddy System for Disabled Students. Wanted: Students with (in)visible disabilities whose recreational need are not currently being met. Call Tamara @ 487-1583 for info.

Model UN Group: meetings on Thursdays, 7pm (sharp!) at 2150 Bishop, Annex D. Everyone welcome. Info: 848-7409.

Hey you psych students! As the largest department in the school, come to the Psych students association meetings and speak your mind! Tuesdays, P-205 (2020 Mackay). Info: 848-7487.

Discussion group: organized by students from families of Jewish and non-Jewish parents. Everyone welcome to explore and discuss in an open, non-judgemental environment. Hillel, 845-9171.

The Garnet Key Society is recruiting members for the next academic year. This is a great way to get involved in your school: Info: 848-4828.

Discussion group: organized by students from families of Jewish and non-Jewish parents. Everyone welcome to explore, discuss in an open, non-judgemental environment. Hillel, 845-9171.

Volunteers needed for World AIDS Day, to make banners, posters, to prepare materials, and/or assist at exhibition on December 1. Info: Diane at Health Services, 848-3575.

Montréal Sexual Assault Centre, 24 hour crisis line: 934-4504.

Are you stressed out? Don't worry, we're here to listen. Come see us at the Peer Helper Centre located at 2130 Bishop.

Continued on page 4

CLASSIFIED ADS

RATES: 20¢ per word for Concordia students (CUSA), 25¢ per word for other students and business ads. Deadlines are 5pm Friday for Tuesday issues, 5 pm Wednesday for Friday issues. Come to room H-649 in the Hall building and fill out one of our painless forms. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-5. Ads must be accompanied by payment, or they will not run. We do NOT take classified ads by phone or by fax.

TYPING

Success to all students! Wordperfect 5.0. Term papers, resumés, etc. 23 years experience - both languages. 7 days a week. $1.75/double-spaced page. 2 streets away, Peel. Paulette or Roxanne, 288-9638, 288-0016.

Typing - $1.25 double-spaced page. Pick-up/delivery, downtown or Loyola. 482-2816, Walter.

Re$umés by MBAs, student rates. Better Business Bureau member. 3000+ students served. Owner worked for Procter & Gamble, Heinz, & General Foods. Prestige (on Guy) 939-2200.

Word processing, Word Perfect 5.1. $1.25/double-spaced page. Mary 733-9642.

Count on me! Professional word processing: $1.50/page, double-spaced, laser quality. Atwater /De Maisonneuve. 935-9528.

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Word Processing and resumé service. Professional, bilingual, fast and accurate. 7 days/week. Term papers, manyscripts, coorespondance. Near Vendome metro. Reasonable rates. 485-4780.

Term papers, essays, $1.50 per page laser print. Pick up and delivery, Hall building. Minor corrections or major editing. Roy 272-3637.

West Island - Professional Word Processing - 697-7946.

Word Processing. 937-8495. Term papers, resumés, manuscripts, correspondence (laser printer). 9:00am - 6:00pm. (Atwater.)

WP/Typing: $1.25 - $1.65/pg., LQ or Laser printer, Ville St-Laurent. 336-7142.

Recession rates - $1.00/page! WordPerfect 5.1 - Laser print, 939-9831.

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$1.25/page on computer. Pick-up/delivery. 926-8737.

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Fast, accurate typing (WordPerfect) $1.50/pg. 488-3302.

MacWriting: typing of term papers, CVs, all academic papers etc. Rates: $1.50p/pg single spaced. Call 767-2145.

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Rush Wordprocessing on Macintosh w/laser printer. Pick-up & delivery. 486-0834.

Profession Plus will do your term papers, C.V.s etc., on WP5.1. (For students: $2.00/page). 622-1750.

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Word Processing, editing, translation by English B.A. Laser printer. Wordprocessing $1.75/page. Gail 768-2910 after 6pm.

Typing, $1.00/double spaced page, bilingual, fast, accurate. Ginette 524-2777.

SERVICES

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Tutoring available free of charge to students who have failed the University Writing Test. Tel: 848-2326.

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Continued on page 4

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YMCA CETNRE-VILLE
1450 Stanley St.
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849-8393
locals 712 & 732
Courses begin: November 30
Registration: November 24, 25, 26
between 12:00-2:00 and 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Access to library stairs still prohibited

by Ita Kendall

Sylvia Benedetti wants access to stairs in the new library building and last week she backed her request with a petition signed by 250 of her co-workers.

Benedetti is a secretary in the English department. Last June, her department moved into new offices in the J.W. McConnell building but Benedetti did not join them until seven weeks later, following therapy.

Benedetti is claustrophobic and could not take the elevator to her fifth floor office. But the university would not allow her to use the emergency staircases. Now she uses the elevators but is still anxious every time.

Since September, Benedetti has campaigned for access to stairs in the library building.

But it doesn't look like her request will be acted on soon.

"It's not something we can do in the very near future," said Max Barlow, an associate vice-rector of services. "If there is a way of changing the situation in the building in terms of budgets and technical feasibility, we will do so."

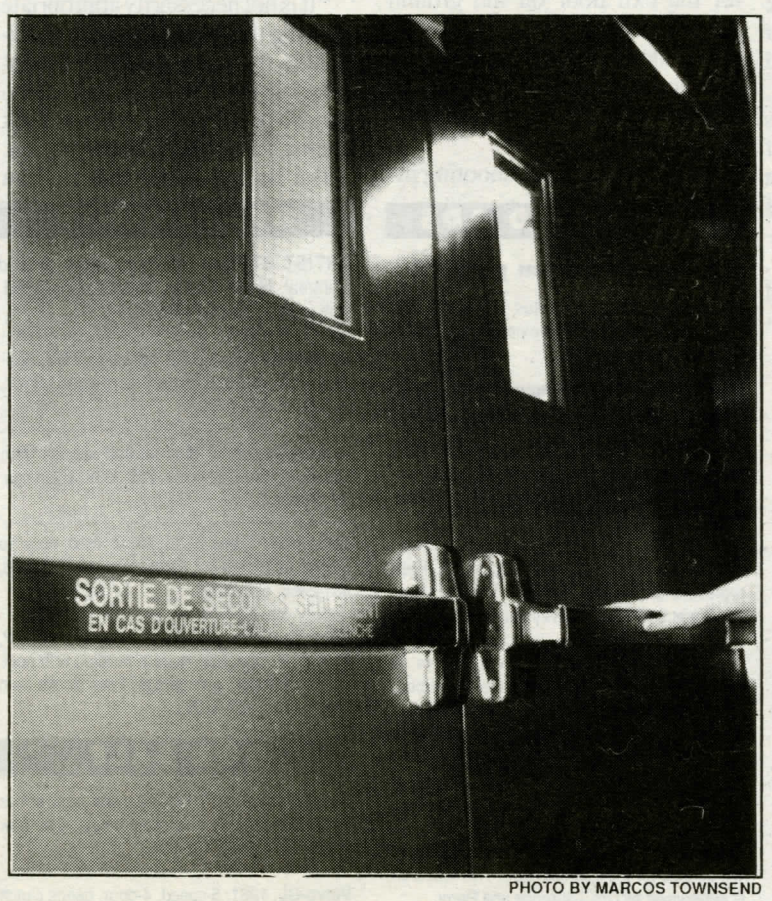

PHOTO BY MARCOS TOWNSEND

But Barlow added that the concerns about the stairs must also be considered in the context of other priorities.

"Air quality is a real concern in the new library and a higher priority right now," he said.

Benedetti has suggested the administration convert one of the emergency fire stairs to a regular-use staircase but Barlow dismissed the idea.

"Converting one of the fire staircases for normal use will require modifications to the alarm system," he said. "If they were to be open for general use there might be security problems.

"I think all the fire stairs exit directly to the outdoors which could mean uncontrolled, open access to the library building," he added.

Michael Di Grappa, director of administrative services for physical resources, said converting fire stairs or the glass-encased stairs at either end of the atrium might contravene building or fire codes.

But Claude Bedard, an associate professor at Concordia's Centre for Building Studies said he "can't see any reason why a fire stairway can't be used regularly since no code regulates the normal use of stairs."

Bedard said he didn't think Concordia would be violating any fire codes if the university converted one emergency staircase for everyday use and if that conversion did not impede the use of the stairs in an emergency

Montreal architect Michael Fish was surprised at the lack of staircases in the McConnell building.

"Stairs should be available to people who want to use them," said Fish. "It's so elementary, I can only think someone with no brains at all designed a building without regular stairs."

In the meantime, workers in the building are reluctantly adapting to its shortcomings.

Susan Brown, the graduate secretary for English said although she does not have a problem like Benedetti's she wants to be able to take the stairs instead of the elevator.

"In the morning you can wait five

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Bus fares to go up, culture and arts funding to drop

Rich suburbs the winners in latest MUC budget

by Damion Stodola

MONTREAL (CUP)—Students and elderly people can expect the cost of their bus passes to rise by as much as 20 per cent next January, following the acceptance of cutbacks to public transport by Montreal-area representatives and mayors.

Despite election promises by the Doré administration to freeze bus fares, no councillors from the Montreal Citizens' Movement (MCM) opposed the proposed fare hikes, to take effect Jan. 1.

GRAPHIC BY L. LEVITSKII FROM KROKODIL

Opposition councillors from the Democratic Coalition of Montreal (DCM) and independent councillors have condemned the fare hike and say the MUC is neglecting its responsibilities to the public by bending to political pressure from suburban areas.

"We are in the process of punishing the less fortunate of the city," said Sam Boskey, DCM councillor for the Decarie riding. "The MUC is deliberately transferring the burden to the poor."

The DCM opposition said the City of Montreal is irresponsibly reducing core services to accomodate wealthier suburbs, who are less inclined to pay for public transit and other services.

Snowdon DCM councillor Marvin Rotrand said people in central Montreal are victims of "bottom-line politics." He said the MCM and suburban mayors have met behind closed doors to get their proposals for cutbacks approved, despite valid arguments from the opposition.

"It's typical of the neo-conservative politics that we are seeing here," said Rotrand.

The total MUC budget for 1993 is up but richer municipalities such as Westmount, Beaconsfield, Dollard-des-Ormeaux, the Town of Mount-Royal and Hampstead are paying the MUC less than last year.

Meanwhile, the City of Montreal, Verdun and Montreal-East will pay considerably more next year.

Public transit will not be the only area affected by the new budget.

The MUC budget for 1993 is an increase of 0.6 per cent but arts and culture subsidies will remain at the same level as 1992. In real dollars, this means a net cut in funding.

Independent councillor Michel Prescott of Jeanne-Mance called for the council to amend the budget. Prescott said the Conseil des Arts (CACUM) should receive the same proportion of the budget as in 1992.

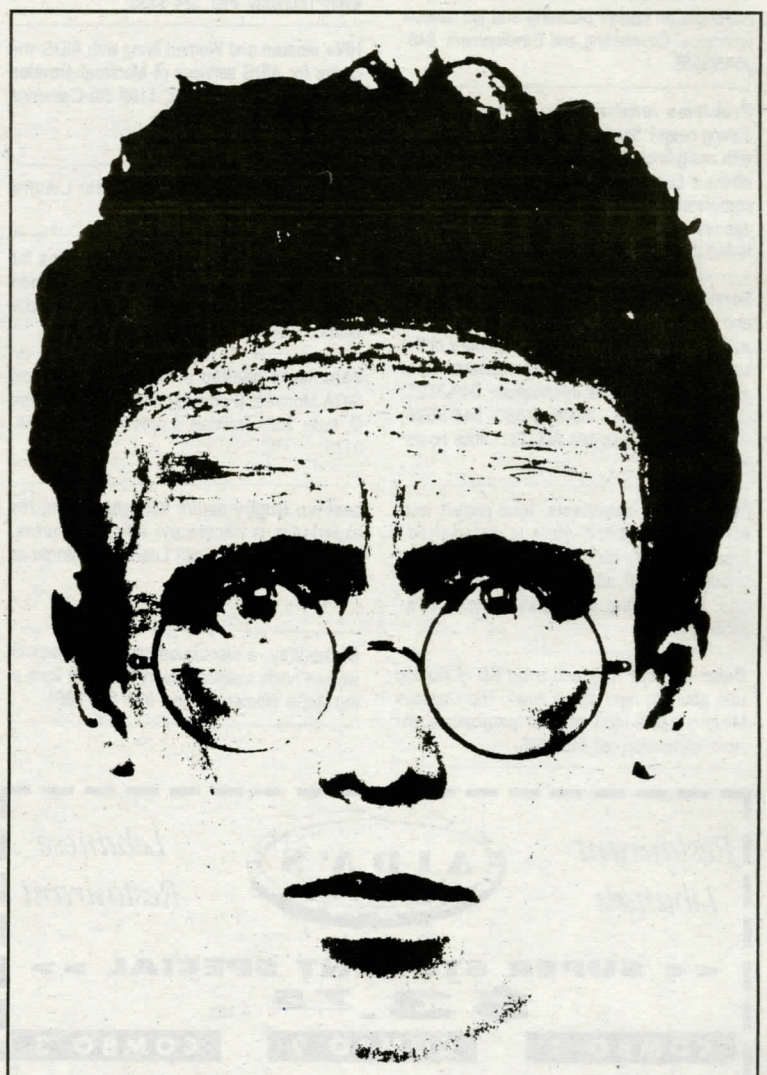
"In this budget we are effectively freezing the CACUM budget while the MUC budget increases 0.6 per cent," said Prescott.

Prescott's proposal would require the MUC spend $52,000 more on the CACUM.

"This would send a positive message to the arts community that we are committed to supporting them even during these hard times," Prescott said.

But Sammy Forcillo, recently elected councillor for St-Jacques and member for the Civic Party, voted against the amendment proposed by Prescott despite the fact St-Jacques is one of the most culturally active areas of the city and will be affected most as a result of the cutbacks.

Councillors who support the new budget said the budget includes an increase of only 0.6 per cent from 1992, two points below the projected inflation rate.



Police are looking for a man who attempted to assault a Concordia student on Oct. 28. The student said the man had attended her sociology classes several times. At the time of the incident, the man approached the woman as she was about to get into her car, which was parked on the corner of Sherbrooke and Simpson Streets. The man, who was described as between 35-40 years old, is stocky with black, wavy hair and green eyes. He is about 5'9" tall and weighs about 175 lbs. At the time of the attempted assault, he was wearing a black leather jacket with multiple zippers and jeans.

Recently, it is believed the same man left a threatening letter on the windshield of the woman's car.

If anyone has any information about this man please contact Concordia security at 848-3712 and use this file no. 921028-261 as a reference.

—Lucy Niro

Library

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minutes for an elevator and around five o'clock it's the same thing. I hate wasting time waiting for the elevator and I like to be able to use the stairs for exercise," said Brown.

Math Professor Richard Hall said he thinks it is "ridiculous" people can't use the stairs.

"I've always been a stair person. It is so natural to run up and down the stairs...It's funny to see able-bodied people waiting for elevators," he said.

Several people, including Benedetti, have told the administration they were concerned about the lack of staircases, especially after the Aug. 24 shootings in the Hall building.

In case of fire the emergency doors are automatically released but if security has not been alerted of an emergency, such as in the case of one person trying to escape an assailant, the doors remain closed.

To open the doors, one must hold down the "crash" bar for three seconds. After that the doors will unlock in 15 seconds.

This procedure must be repeated for the exit door on the ground floor.

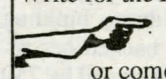
Benedetti said the waiting period would be horrible if a shooting situation occurred in the library building.

But Barlow said the shooting incident is not a good example to use in terms of the fire stairs security system.

"It is not necessarily appropriate to relate the Aug. 24 shooting incident to the library situation. Considering the nature of that emergency, people were safer to lock themselves in their offices," he said.

But Barlow added that he "can understand the psychological uneasiness felt by the people working in that building."

Write for the Link ...



or come to a staff meeting
4:30 every Friday,
room H649 in the Hall Bldg.

AGENDA

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Volunteers are needed to help in the organization and in the distribution of food baskets to needy families this Christmas. Please call the Hellenic Social Services of Hellenic Community of Montreal at 340-3580 or 340-3560, Tania or Rosy.

The Centre for Mature Students downtown is now located in the new McConnell building in room 517. Lounge and study area, academic advising, drop by or call 848-3890.

Maison Tanguay is looking for books in good condition for their library. Recent knitting magazines and French bestsellers are especially welcome. Call Terri: 934-3176

Careers Library: stumped about your future occupation? There are a multitude of jobs which could meet your interests & abilities. The Careers Library provides a wide variety of materials on career planning and job search technique. Counselling and Development: 848-3545/3555.

Problems remembering what you read? Taking notes? Studying for exams? Keeping up with assignments? Counselling & Development offers a Learning Assistants program that is completely free for students. Just call for an appointment: 848-3545, 848-3555, or drop by H-440 (SGW) or 2490 West Broadway (LOY).

Services for Disabled Students - Advocacy and Support Services. We need qualified and willing volunteers to help us deliver many of the services our students use, eg. readers, tutors assistants. For more information: 848-3525; (Voice and TDD) - SGW H-580, 848-3536; (Voice and TDD) Loyola AD-121. Office hours: 9am - 5pm.

Free: writing assistants: term papers and written assignment? Help to get started, organize ideas, identify areas that could be stronger. H-440 and 2490 West Broadway. Info: Counselling and Development, 848-3555/3545.

Down on your luck and even KD is looking real gourmet right about now? The Campus Ministry has a food voucher programme, for more information call 848-3588.

The Legal Information Service: If you have problems with your landlord, or with a contract that you signed, or you are looking for information on divorce, we can help! Offices at room CC-326, 7141 Sherbrooke St. West, 848-4960 from 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday. Services are free and confidential.

AIDS hotline: CSAM (Comité SIDA Aide Montréal) 282-9991.

WOMEN

Women performers! If you do music, dance, poetry, or performance but there seems to be no venues, don't despair! CUSA Women's Issues is starting a monthly Women Performers Night at Reggie's next semester. For info, call Emily or Kristen at 848-7474.

Biblio-café Labyris: lesbian cultural centre café and library open from 7-10pm, 2025 Gilford every Thursday. Info: 524-1336.

HIV+ women and Women living with AIDS: the centre for AIDS services of Montreal provides info Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm, 1168 Ste-Catherine W, suite 202. Info: 954-0170.

Feminist tours of Montreal! Info: L'Autre Montréal, 521-7802.

The new edition of Concordia Resources for Women book available at the Status of Women office, 2150 Bishop, and at the Concordia Women's Centre, 2020 Mackay, downstairs.

Volunteers needed at the Centre d'Action SIDA Montréal (Femmes) 1168 Ste-Catherine O, suite 202. Training is provided. Info: 954-0170.

Lesbian Rugby and/or volleyball team: No experience is necessary! Info, comments, suggestions please call Luanna or Monia at 762-5545.

Bi-the-Way, a discussion group for bisexual women holds meetings every Friday at 8pm at the McGill Women's Union. Info: 598-8661.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Continued from page 2

Profession Plus offers Lotus 123 & WP 5.1. courses. $55 each (approximately 8 hrs & semi-private). 622-1750.

HELP WANTED

The Link is looking for part-time advertising design personnel. If interested, drop off your C.V. at H-649 at the attention of Alice or Lise before November 30th.

Female models wanted for test shoot. Free professional pictures in return. For interview, call Dia at 633-5627. Leave message.

Our laboratory is seeking volunteers to participate in studies on cognitive abilities. These experiments may or may not involve testing for hypnotic susceptibility. If interested, call our laboratory at 848-2213 and leave you name and phone number on the answering machine. One of our graduate students will contact you in order to provide you with more details and scheduling possibilities. Volunteers will be paid for their participation. This research is supervised by Drs. Laurence and Perry.

We are looking for individuals who are interested in learning more about alcohol and alcoholism, and willing to participate in an experiment. Participants will be eligible for a $500 cash prize to be raffled off at the end of the experiment. Interested? Call Rike at 523-6477.

Needed: female actresses for professional public service announcement in age groups 18-25 yrs and 35-50 yrs (brown eyes & hair). Also needed: female and male talent aged 60+ yrs. Call Laura at 274-9221.

CRSG is looking for a part-time technician for re-wiring/related tasks. If you are an electrical engineering student &/or have experience, contact Mimikos at 848-7402 or pass by H-647.

Unlimited Earnings: major long-distance telecommunications company is seeking representatives to register residential & business customers, who can save up to 60% on international long distance telephone calls. Work at your own pace & hours. Earnings guaranteed. Representatives must be able to communicate in an ethnic language, i.e. a language other than English or French, for example: Greek, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Egyptian, Arabic, Japanese Etc. For information call 276-9437.

APARTMENTS

ARTIST STUDIO for rent, close to Old Montréal, Metro Victoria. Heated sprinklered, high ceilings. Low rent. 861-3787.

Roommate needed for beautiful 71/2. Jan-June, Sherbrooke Metro, hardwood, brick, renovated. 284-5309.

Parking space for rent, heated, across from Faubourg, Ste-Catherine, 252-3639. Evenings: 581-8156.

November free! 31/2, $350, next door to Loyola, heating & hot water included, furnished, 481-2968, 523-7572.

"Rosedale Manor" beautiful large apts. 21/2, 31/2, 41/2. Concrete modern building with pool, sauna, sundeck, and garage. Four blocks from Loyola. Info: 483-2708.

FOR SALE

Need a computer? We have the best prices for all compatibles and components. Call now at 482-1774 or fax 482-3248.

Volvo-GL, 1981, 5-speed, 4-door, needs clutch work but other mechanics excellent, 4 Pirelli (P-77) tires. Asking $1,000 negotiable. 488-3492.

Exxa down coats - 1445 Bleury (north of Ste-Catherine). Down jackets $129+, Coats $149+, parkas $149+, kids down jackets $99 ($149 value), bombers $69.95, wool socks. 842-3465.

Pagers - for sale or rental - and cellular phones at competitive prices. Jennifer 986-9994 leave numeric message.

Word Processor, WP5.1. VGA colour, 40 megs. Printer Futjisu DL 3450 office type support equipment and armchair. Call 939-3291 (after 6pm.

TRAVEL

Venezuela Winter Trip, departure on Dec. 25 for a 2 week stay at Villas Puerto Morro in Puerto la Crux, $729 tx included. Come & join the fun! Call Marjolaine 598-9733

GENERAL

Artist materials = great gifts. Artist materials & great prices = super gifts. Save 30% to 50% or more on paints/brushes/pastels/pencil sets, children's art materials, sketch books, & much more. Fine Arts Faculty, Art Supply Store Gift Sale: Loyola Campus Centre, Nov. 24-27, mezzanine, Hall building Dec. 2-4, Foyer VA building Dec. 7-9.

Graduate Student Get-togethers, School of Graduate Studies. The academic year 1992-93 is the inaugural year for the School of Graduate Studies. It will prove to be exciting and will provide us with the opportunity to initiate projects, such as promoting a lecture series by visiting speakers and other similar ventures. to forge stronger links between faculty and students and to stimulate scholarly debate within the community. In addition, Dean Martin Kusy would like to meet with graduate students so we have arranged "get-togethers" for this purpose. There will be two such sessions each semester at our Graduate Administrative offices, 2145 Mackay Street. They will be held from 6pm to 8pm on the following dates: First semester, Tuesday, October 6, 1992, Thursday, November 12, 1992. Second semester: Wednesday, February 3, 1993, Monday, March 8, 1993. Because our space is limited, I ask that you please reserve one of the following dates by contacting Ms. Kali Sakell at 848-3803 if you are interested in attending. We look forward to seeing you.

PERSONALS

Slender black male desires female companion who likes laughing, movies, and massages. Ethnicity unimportant. Reply: MM Box 238, Mirror Classified, 400 McGill St. #200, Mtl., Que. H2Y 2G1.

LOST & FOUND

LOST: Brand new blue jean jacket - last seen in the sixth floor of the Hall building, Thurs. Nov. 12, 8pm - Sentimental value, please return. Reward, no questions asked. 494-1954 or leave a message at the Link.

Lost gold bracelet very sentimental value. If found please call 333-0518, (Fay). Reward offered.

Lost in the vicinity of the Lionel Groulx metro station on Delisle: a black and white female kitten. 4 months old with a black spot on her nose. Answers to Missy. Phone 939-5854..

Restaurant Libanais

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Falafel Sandwich (vegetarian)	Homemade Fries	Homemade Fries
Soft Drink	Coffee or Tea	Coffee or Tea

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U of O proposes program to train midwives

by Cliff Groen

OTTAWA (CUP)—The University of Ottawa should know by the end of the year whether the provincial government will approve its proposed midwife training program.

The U of O in collaboration with Lakehead University, the University of Windsor, the Michener Institute in Toronto and La Cité Collegiale in Hull, has submitted a detailed proposal to the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

"The main objective of the program is to provide an alternative in health care," said Marie Chamberlain, the program's proposed director and a professor in U of O's school of nursing.

Chamberlain said one of the program's main components is "continuity of care." She said this can be achieved by letting one person, the midwife, provide all the care required for childbirth.

Chamberlain asserted that midwifery is safe.

"Eighty-five per cent of births are 'normal' and an educated midwife is entirely capable of providing the needed care," she said.

In the remaining 15 per cent of cases, midwifes are trained to recognize potential difficulties, she said. At the first sign of complications a midwife would immediately refer the women to an obstetrician, added Chamberlain.

The University of Ottawa has a long-standing interest in the development of a midwifery degree program. In 1988, U of O received a grant from the Ontario Ministry of Health to conduct a two-month study of all births in Ottawa. Their research revealed over 60 per cent of women would prefer being treated by a midwife.

Last year, U of O began developing a midwifery program with McMaster University . But since then, the schools decided to submit separate proposals. McMaster and Laurentian universities and Ryerson will submit a joint proposal.

However, the Ontario government will only support and provide the initial start-up grant for one program.

The government was supposed to announce the group which would receive the grant by Nov. 1 but postponed its decision until after the Midwifery Education Proposal Review Panel meets with the Ontario Minister of Colleges and Universities.

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) supports the midwifery educational proposals.

"The training that would be provided would be a giant step toward ensuring that proper obstetrical practices are followed," said Martine Joli, the SOGC's communications officer.

Marie Chamberlain said providing Ontario women with the option to use a midwife "is a better and cheaper alternative" to what is currently available. Women get the benefit of non-institutionalized personal care covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Program. And the midwife's services cost significantly less than hospital procedures.

The new program for midwives is expected to be established by Sept. 1993.

CUSA briefs

BoD gets quorum, at last

The CUSA Board of Directors finally achieved quorum last week, for the first time since Aug. 26.

At 6:20 p.m. last Wednesday, an eleventh board member walked into the meeting, which had been scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

There are 20 members on the board but many have not shown up for any of the meetings scheduled earlier this semester.

CUSA co-president Phil Toone estimated that five or six members may have given up on the BoD.

The attendance review committee will report on the missing members at the next BoD meeting. Board members who do not show up for meetings will eventually be removed.

Once they are officially off the board, fewer members will be required to achieve quorum.

Suspension policy put down

CUSA members condemned the suspension policy in the Code of Conduct—non academic.

The policy gives the rector the power to immediately suspend students for "disruptive behaviour."

"This is an academic punishment for a criminal offence and it is done without due process," said CUSA co-president Phil Toone.

Co-president Charlene Nero said the policy gives the rector the power to "write all the laws and then act as judge and jury."

Electoral process reviewed

The Board passed director Annick Robinson's motion that the Judicial Board be asked to report on "improved electoral procedures" at the next meeting.

Most board members present agreed with Charlene Nero that an "informed and responsible chief returning officer" is the key to running elections smoothly.

"Any student can come to the CUSA offices and get a copy of the electoral rules," said Nero.

"We have copies of the electoral regulations from 20 universities and to tell you the truth, ours aren't all that different. There isn't some change we can make to guarantee absolutely no problems," said Toone.

Meditation club O.K.'d

The Meditation Society was ratified at the board meeting.

The Society wants to provide students with a room on campus for meditation and relaxation between classes.

Directors revoked the status of eight clubs because they have been inactive for a long time.

Chemistry Students' Association was not eliminated because CUSA hopes new students will try restart the CSA in January.

Nero answers criticism

CUSA co-president Nero responded to a commentary written by former CUSA VP Lana Grimes in the CASA newsletter Communiqué. Nero said Grimes' allegations about the commission of inquiry into the election were false.

"Grimes and (her former co-candidate) Philip Dalton are cowardly, petty and inept," she said.

Nero said she is ready to meet them in "any forum" to respond to their charges.

—Mark Brooker

PHOTO BY MARCOS TOWNSEND

Two members of Toronto native band Syren perform "Don't Worry" with Montreal Jamacian artist Noel Stone last Sunday night at Kahnawake. 200 attended the dance-fest, billed as the first Jamacian/ Mohawk Cultural Exchange.

Student federation swings to the right

Canada's national student association is being hijacked by right-wing groups, CUSA co-president Charlene Nero said yesterday.

Nero attended the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) general meeting at Rockland, Ontario this weekend, where delegates from across Canada defeated three progressive motions.

CFS delegates decided not to adopt a pro-choice policy and rejected a motion to re-establish a woman's commissioner on their national executive.

Delegates also voted down a motion supporting subsidies to marginalized groups, such as aboriginals, lesbians, gays and bisexuals, disabled people and people of colour.

Nero said 20 delegations, primarily those representing universities from the western and eastern regions of Canada, rejected the motions.

"These groups consistently voted against progressive and liberal ideas," said Nero. "They're trying to steer the CFS to the right, take over the CFS and destroy it."

In practice, the federation already offers a 25 per cent discount on conference fees to delegates from marginalized groups.

A majority of the delegates, about 60 per cent, wanted this practice to become policy but the motion needed the support of two-thirds of the delegates to be passed.

Twenty of 50 delegations voted to reject each of the three motions.

"It's really disconcerting that the CFS is talking about accessibility to education and yet 20 delegates don't believe in accessibility to the conferences," said Nero.

Conference delegates also failed to re-establish a women's directorate to provide services to women on campus. This service was offered by the CFS until 1984, when women agreed to the temporary abolition of the position due to the federation's financial problems.

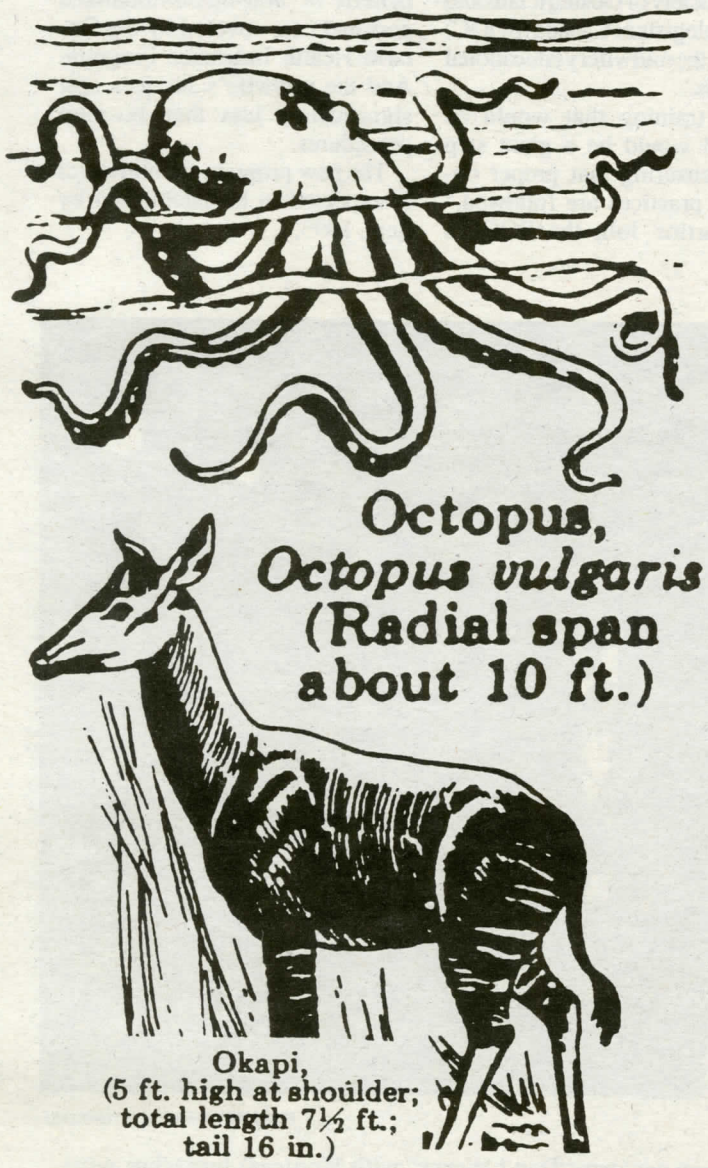
CUSA representatives were at the conference as observers and did not vote because CUSA is not a member of the CFS.

CUSA belongs to l'Association des étudiantes et étudiants du Québec (ANEEQ), a union of student councils in Quebec.

— Debbie Hum

Correction: In the last issue of *the Link* (Nov. 17),the photos on the front cover were not credited to Buffy R. Childerhose. *The Link* regrets the error.

Inside out. That's what you, dear reader, must do with this newspaper to transform it into an all-purpose, handy-dandy arts and entertainment news magazine. To do so, simply open this center section right up and fold it over on the dotted line so that these two pages become the front and back pages of this wonderful publication. Do it. Now! Guaranteed to thrill, chill, and stun even the most jaded of you!



Octopus,
Octopus vulgaris
(Radial span
about 10 ft.)

Okapi,
(5 ft. high at shoulder;
total length 7½ ft.;
tail 16 in.)

Stupping the *Toxines*

by Robert Gauvin

Montreal natives **Les Stups** will be coming out of seclusion this Thursday to release their latest cassette*Toxines*.

The album is **Les Stups'** second release since having appeared on the first release of the *Laches Lousses* compilation two years ago.

"We have never put out much on the market, but always have had a lot of material ready," says drummer Pat Panik, who is better known as Pat the Brat.

Lead vocalist Pierre Tombasles hopes*Toxines* eventually becomes the band's calling card. "We hope it will open doors for us and create opportunities for us in the future," says Tombasles.

The **Les Stups** collective are also proud they are self-financed and in full control of all aspects of*Toxines*' creation.

"By doing things yourself, you ensure no surprises come out of the process," says bassist Julien Sisoitil.

"We all have day jobs and contributed to financing the project," says Panik. "We did everything ourselves. Why even Julien did the graphics for the tape."

Les Stups agree their first self-titled demo—released through the *Ondes de Choc* collection—didn't do the band justice, and became the motivation behind*Toxines*.

"The whole concept behind the *Ondes de Choc* series was excellent," says Panik. "But the material they had available at recording time was not the best around. That was one of the disadvantages of appearing early in the series."

Les Stups find it a bit difficult to explain lyrically what their songs are all about. "Everything we write tends to be spontaneous," says Sisoitil. "Just the fact of living in the city influences our music."

"Our songs never touch the same topics," says Tombasles. "I always liked to write, even long before joining **Les Stups**. Music was a way for me to get what I wrote heard in public."

Despite being recorded in less than a week, *Toxines* contains a collection of recent and older songs never recorded before.

"Some of the songs we often played at shows, but because they were never recorded no one could hear them again," says Panik.

Like every band who has played out of town, **Les Stups** have their own storybook full of follies and tour nightmares. These range from driving in trecherous road conditions from Jonquière to being unexpectedly booked at a Hell's Angels festival.

In short, **Les Stups** have enough material to write their own *This Is Spinal Tap*.

***Les Stups** launch their second cassette **Toxines** Thursday Nov.29 at La Nausee (1405 St-Laurent); tickets are 2 for 1 from 9-11pm ($4), or $10 in advance at L'Oblique or La Nausee which also gets you a copy of Toxines.*

Gut-wrenching jazz

by Francis Lafortune

The latest trend in this age of economic depression is for different artistic fields to unite.

In this case, dancer Abigail Amies will join the music of **State of Emergency** for three shows at the Strathearn Theater.

These Robin Hoods of modern times will hit the stage following opening act Adrian Clark. Clark is a Concordia student who'll be singing his tunes with an acoustic guitar.

Amies will follow with an hour of dance to and against the world beats of **State of Emergency**. Amies is a scientist-turned-dancer who graduated from Concordia in Fine Arts. Along with another dancer and two sax players, she represented the university at Danscene '92 in Vancouver.

With the band, Richard Hartman's pet project, the FX 3-D laser stereo sound, will be featured. What is an FX 3-D laser stereo? Well, it's not a laser light show. Maybe it's some kind of new concept of laser sound. Richard is known around Montreal for his studio and his recording label FX Network Recording Label, which represents around 20 bands from Canada and the U.S..

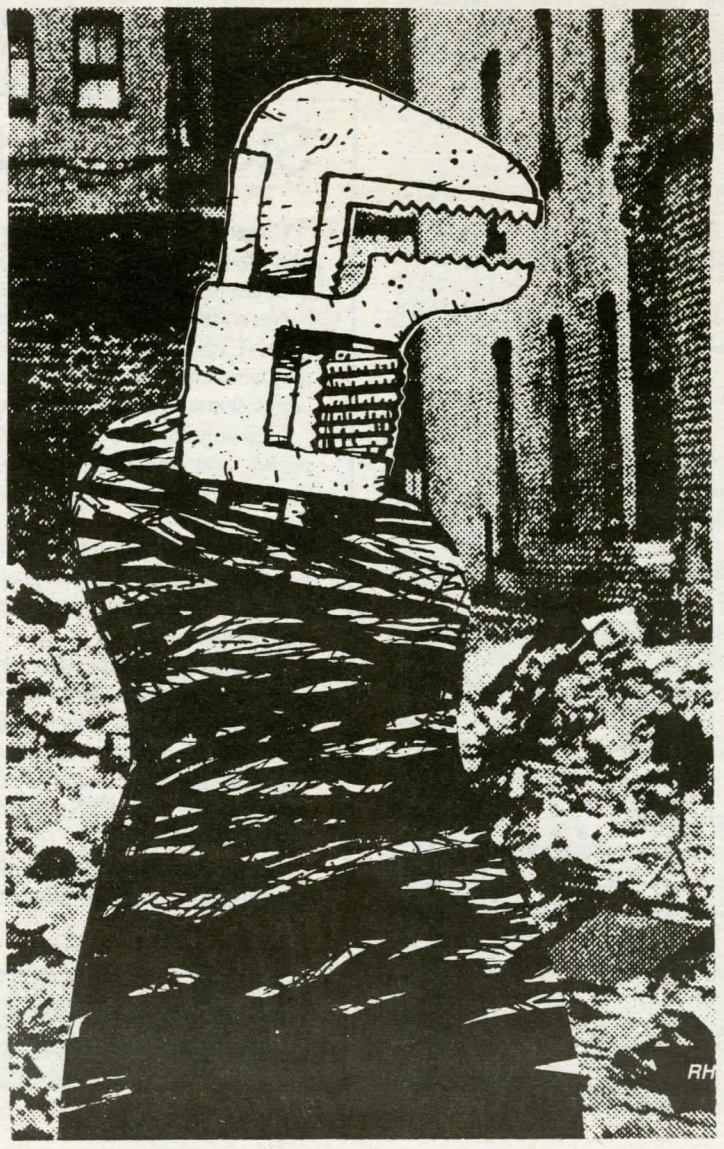
State of Emergency will play a 20 minute set alone to end the evening.

State of Emergency is a crossover of jazz, dance, and new age music with poetry. This melting pot of music is played by sax, keyboard, bass, drum, congas/percussion and Brandon Walsh on guitar. It's been playing in and around Montreal for a year. Their show Saturday will have a premiere of their new work, *Surviving In Modern Times*.

Lead by Ian Halperin, an award-winning journalist and accomplished sax player, the band is involved in many social issues. One dearest to their hearts is socio-economic and ethnic barriers.

Apparently, *Surviving In Modern Times* is dedicated to Princess Patience, a South African singer who sang with many leading African groups. Princess Patience—who died suddenly last year—was Halperin's s musical inspiration.

***State of Emergency** at Strathearn Theate, 3680 Jeanne-Mance (c. Prince-Arthur), Friday November 27 at 8pm, Saturday November 28 at 3pm and 8pm. Matinee 5$, evening 10$.*



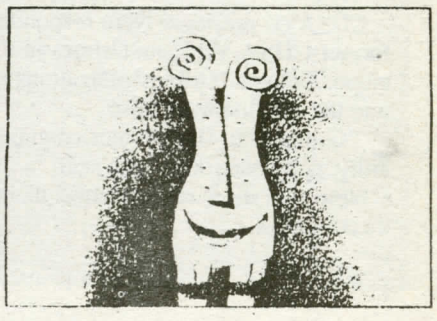
NFB will host Con U screenings

The National Film Board,in association with Studio D - its women's studio - is presenting two benefit screenings at Concordia this week.

Norma Bailey's *Women in the Shadows* will make its Montreal premiere Thursday as a benefit for the Native Friendship Centre and Native Women's Shelter. The documentary follows Métis writer/filmmaker Christine Welsh's search for her Native ancestry.

Gail Singer's *Wisecracks*, a film looking at women comedians from around the world, will be screened Friday in support of the Montreal Sexual Assault Centre.

***Women in the Shadows**, screening Thurs., Nov. 26 at 7pm. **Wisecracks**, screening Fri., Nov. 27 at 7pm. & 9pm. Both films are being shown in the Hall auditorium H-110. Suggested donation is $5.*



Wishful thinking, Aladdin comes to America

by James-Jason Lee

Disney's animated feature, *Aladdin*, weaves some good old movie magic. But this magic can be both black and white.

The film's white magic brew is a mix of stunning saturated colours swelling off the movie screen, dynamic animated action, and a hyperactive delivery of extremely droll lines by Robin Williams and Frank Welker.

A controlled spasm of syrup suited for kids and adults strung out on TV, breakfast cereals, and Pop-Tart Pop-Art, the film alchemically fuses technology and story-telling.

The tale is a simple one about love, freedom, and self-esteem—important lessons for the young and the sentimental—which doesn't shatter any childhood illusions.

But it may create new illusions that are all black magic.

As the first non-European fairy tale adopted by Disney, *Aladdin* is a collision of American, Persian and Arabic cultures with American culture prevailing.

Whenever Persian or Arabic cultural elements emerge, they are deflated and subordinated. Merchants and servants, the peripheral and poor characters, are given supposed Arabic or Persian accents, while the leads, Aladdin and Jasmine, have voices that are pristinely American. When the characters say: "Praise Allah," it's hard to believe they mean it.

And just in case the audience isn't sure, the cultural superiority of America is reaffirmed in the opening song. The lyricists reassure all listeners that the imagery of Agrabah kingdom—the setting for the film—is "barbaric" and violent.

Aladdin is kinder and gentler compared to other Hollywood portrayals of the Arab world . But it's also like a whitewash or an amnesia attack. The kingdom of Agrabah probably suffered collateral damage during the Gulf War.

Other evil messages transmitted are directed to girls. The teenaged Princess Jasmine—from the liberal feminist mould—is spirited and determined. She is definitely tougher than Snow White and Cinderella. She wants to be free to choose her own husband.

But the Princess is also beautiful and has an 18-inch waist and a 36-inch chest. With a proportionately unrealistic body, *Aladdin* sets a difficult standard of health and beauty.

Aladdin is full of wonder and skillful animation. Mixing cleverness and wit for the adults with slapstick for the kids, it engages its entire audience to follow the romantic tale. The film is entertaining, enchanting and a feat of the imagination, if the imagination isn't left wandering too far.

***Aladdin** playing at Famous Players theatres from Nov. 27.*

Going for a ride: Genie, Princess Jasmine, and Aladdin fly on their Stealth carpet.

Spins

by Robert Gauvin

The Sundays
Blind
DGC/MCA

Blind—the second release from this four-piece British group—is a replica of their first release. All the songs contain the same moody, mellow guitar-based filler. Almost like **Lush** without the feedback and psychedelia.

Singer Harriet Wheeler still sounds like a carbon copy of Bjork from the **Sugarcubes**, without the quirks and screams, of course.

The only surprise worth mentioning is a cover of the **Rolling Stones**' *Wild Horses*, done in such a typically **Sundays** setting any amateur music fan would never notice it's a **Stones** cover.

Velcro Soul
Hurt'Em A Little
Independent

If *Hurt'Em A Little* is representative of the **Velcro Soul** sound, the band obviously has more in common with **Men O Steel** and **The Stand** than with the likes of **Slov** or **Rhododendron**.

Songs such as *Rock'N'Roll Reactionary*, *Swallow Me* and *Gossip Column* tend to reflect the Montreal music scene's older punk-influenced era than the recent wave of West coast clones.

Frontman Dave Snuffleupagus McIntyre has a quick tempo, conversational singing style similar to that of **Seven Seconds**.

Best moments include the French track *Bertrand*, *Somebody Else's Problem* and *Gossip Column* (sung at a trillion kilometres per hour).

by Francis Lafortune

Mashin' Up The Nation: Best of American Ska Vol. 1 & 2.
Square Records

Heavy Metal Horns
Heavy Metal Horns
Square Records

Heavy Metal Horns and *Mashin' Up The Nation*, two recent albums released by the people who brought you the LX-500 Food Blender and every odd, strange, far-out, creepy, unnatural bands of Canada and other countries: Square Records.

- *Heavy Metal Horns* unlike *Mashin' Up The Nation* is kind of funny.
- *Mashin' Up The Nation* unlike *Heavy Metal Horns* is danceable.
- The LX-500 Food Blender, unlike both albums, is worth buying.

Don't waste your money on the crappy CDs, go for the Blender. It'll be the greatest $19.95 you'll ever spend.

Correction

In the film review for *Malcolm X*, the city of Mecca was wrongly located as being in Egypt. Mecca is actually located in Saudi Arabia. *The Link* regrets the error.

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Position Available

The Judicial board of CUSA is now taking applications for the position of Chief Returning Officer for 1992-1993.

Applications and job descriptions will be available at the CUSA desk at both campuses beginning Friday, November 20. the deadline for completed applications is Friday, November 27, 1992, at 17:00

For more information, contact the Judicial Board at 848-7420, or call CUSA at 848-7474

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Outstanding are the Penquin "hurts" which cover the spectrum of literature from Classics to Mysteries to Skills as well as a wide range of fiction for all age groups.

Date:
November 23 to 27, 1992

Time
Monday to Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Place:
Concordia Bookstore
New Library Building

A percentage of the profits will be donated to the Canadian Gift of Literacy Foundation

Concordia UNIVERSITY

The re-education of spirit

by Jeanine Lee Siew Ming

Foxspirit: A Woman in Mao's China explores the mentalities behind the victims and the victimizers in the Cultural Revolution.

This book is both an historical and humanistic account of those living in that turbulent era.

It is a biography about the conflict between mass psychological trauma, and individualistic bravery. It gives a hint of author Zhimei Zhang's life.

Zhang was condemned during the Cultural Revolution for being an international spy and an immoral "bourgeois" intellectual.

Weaving through half a century of history, Foxspirit describes a country undergoing ideological changes.

These changes—seen through the eyes of a Chinese woman—prove to be both confusing and disturbing.

Zhang narrates from a distance what she experienced first-hand. Much of the passion and energy which can be read between the lines remain mere suggestions because Zhang seems to suffer from an emotional writer's block throughout the book.

What could have been a powerful book becomes a recollection of a painful and distant past.

From the liberation of her mother's feet to her three-year attempt at getting a passport into Canada, Foxspirit takes the reader on a tour into the midst of a people terrorized by the fanaticism of a revolutionary government.

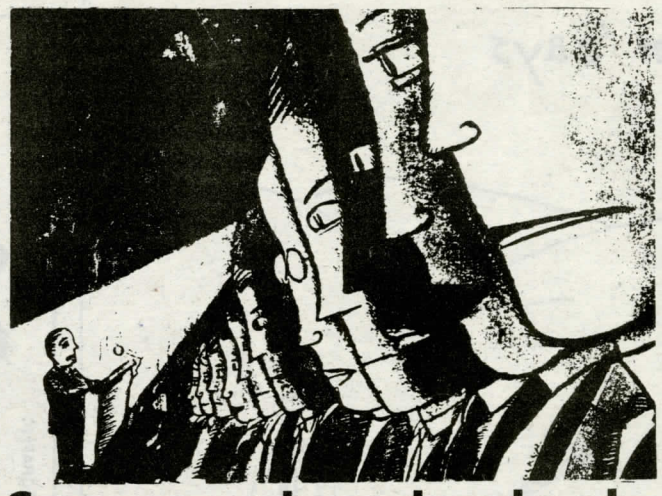
It begins with the author's childhood during the Japanese occupation of northeastern China and continues with memories of a family whose good fortune sparked their downfall during the anti-bourgeois sentiments of the Cultural Revolution.

When Zhang describes the circumstances under which she went through two divorces and a couple of affairs, she paints a picture of China's social culture rarely seen by outsiders.

Zhang did succeed in recreating the scenes from behind the infamous "bamboo curtains."

> *As we go our separate ways, there will always be a delicate thread linking us. The legacy of our unhappy love is that wherever you are, I will be with you.*
>
> – Excerpt from *Foxspirit: A Woman in Mao's China*

Foxspirit: A Woman in Mao's China *by Zhimei Zhang, Véhicule Press, 234 pp*



Cormorant launches books

Bistro 4 was packed two Tuesdays ago for Cormorant Books launch of *One Fish from the Rooftop* by John Mikhail Asfor, and *Hellman's Scrapbook* by Robert Majzels.

The beer was flowing well before John Mikhail Asfor & his wife took the stage.

Asfor interspersed his narrative poems with music—his own—played on the Lebanese lute and an oversized mandolin-like instrument that was alternately twangy like an auto-harp, and then lilted with the verve of Spanish flamenco.

The music tied the poems into a narrative picture. It gave wordless emotion to the lyrical poems, and in return the poems focused the emotion of the music.

In the poems, Asfor recreated a war-riddled village in Lebanon and the emotional drama of growing up in it. He made fitting and empathetic connections to the current socio-economics of St. Henri in Montreal. *One Fish from the Rooftop* was well-presented and would be a good read.

Robert Majzels read a dramatic passage of surreal glamourization of poverty and depression in Montréal from his first novel *Hellman's Scrapbook*. The scene portrayed — a dead roommate out in the snowbank — was near-melodrama but was saved by a sensitively spliced together dream-sequence at the end in which the main character (David) struggles half-asleep, half-awake to make sense of his conflicting thoughts and desires. *Hellman's Scrapbook* is David's journal writings while incarcerated. Thick book. Questionable read.

by Abbey Frankless

This day in Publishing

Nov. 24, 1713—Laurence Sterne author of the *Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy* is born in Clonmel County, Tipperary. When a society lady calls the novel "not proper for female perusal," Sterne counters by comparing it to her own child—"He shows at times a good deal that is usually concealed, but it is all in good taste."

Literary Calendar

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

QSPELL Book Awards
The fifth annual QSPELL book awards are being held at the Ritz-Carlton. Tickets are 20 bucks. **6:30 pm.** Tickets available at local bookstores. Info: 932-5093

Off the Boulevard
An evening of Poetry & Music. Readers include Bill Furey, Ian Stevens, Peter Brawley, Francine Ross and Peter Marlowe. Musical Guest is *Chancy & Michael*. **8:30 pm**. Stornaway Gallery, 1069 Bleury. $3 admission.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Book-Lover's Bistro
The Quebec Association of English-Language Book Publishers is holding a joint launch in The Gazette lobby (245 St. Jacques). A lot of readers and a load of great writers signing their books. **11 pm – 4 pm.** Free. Info: 844-6073

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Nicole Brossard
Nicole Brossard reads in English as well as French from her work. Sponsored by The Canada Council & the Dept. of English at Concordia. **12:00 pm.** Cinéma J.A. Deséve.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Capacity 101
Capacity 101: A celebration of Montreal English Poetry with Jazz. Readers include: Mary di Michelle, Steve Luxton, Erin Mouré, Phil Moscovitch, Todd Swift, Jim Infantino, Rick McKintyre, Maxianne Berger, Sarah O'Leary, Daniel O'Leary, Deborah Eibel, Robyn Sarah, Esther Ross, Endre Farkas, Doug Isaac and many more. Also, The World's Most Lyrical Band. A load of books to giveaway. Books for sale. Open-mike contest. Hell's Kitchen. **7:00 pm – 12:00 pm.** 2 non-profit-support-the-arts-dollars.

Off the Shelf

Books you should have read in school

Green with rust

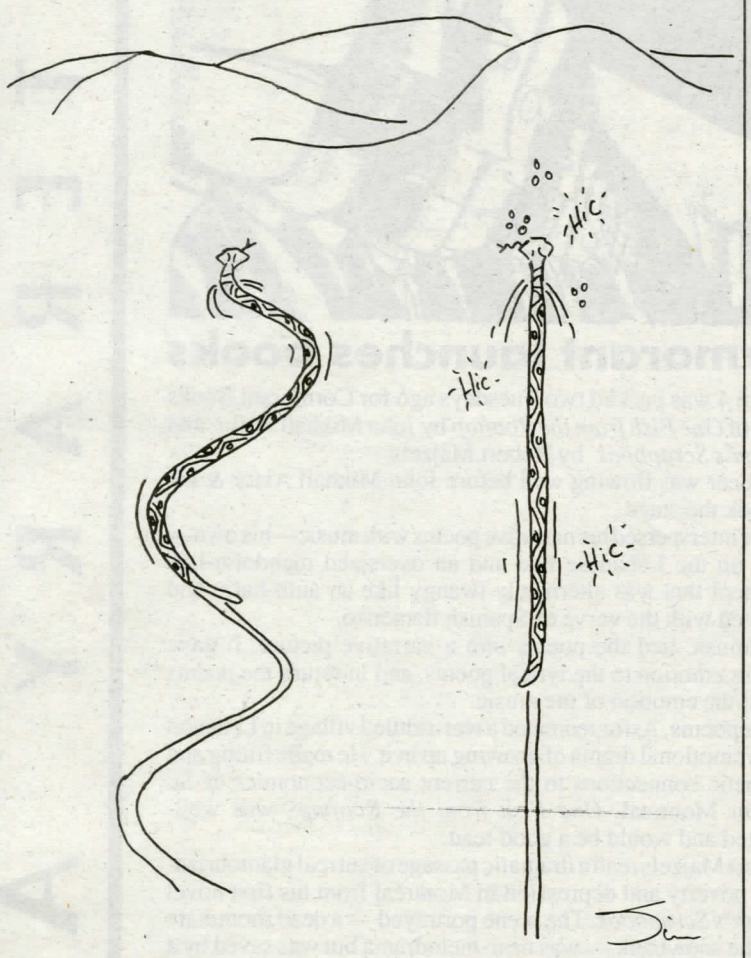
Now that the common Cold War has been cured and Clinton is using the Berlin Wall for a paperweight, it may be time to take down a few of the great Soviet writers and dust off the barbed wire. One of them is Yuri Olesha, born in 1899, dead in 1960, whose last years were confined to solitary writer's block.

The problem? *Envy*, published in 1927, was hailed by his Stalinist critics only until they realized its genius went beyond populist yea-saying. This short novel is perhaps the wittiest piece of "formalist" writing our century has forgotten, filled with freshly cut images that fall about the reader like chrome rose petals.

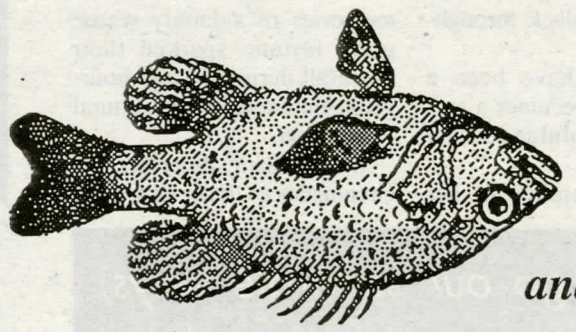
Modernism has never been more user-friendly in this tale of automatons, young working women with short-hair, beefy ideologues and the narrator, whose troubles in a material world never let up: Things don't like me...my relations with my blanket are always complicated." Sensuous, dystopian, quite as mad as Kafka, Olesha's writing is a machine-shop for the aspiring language-maker who just wants to get under the hood and fix it.

by Todd Swift

Simon Says



GRAPHIC BY SIMON BACHAND



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Flooded with donations for Croatia

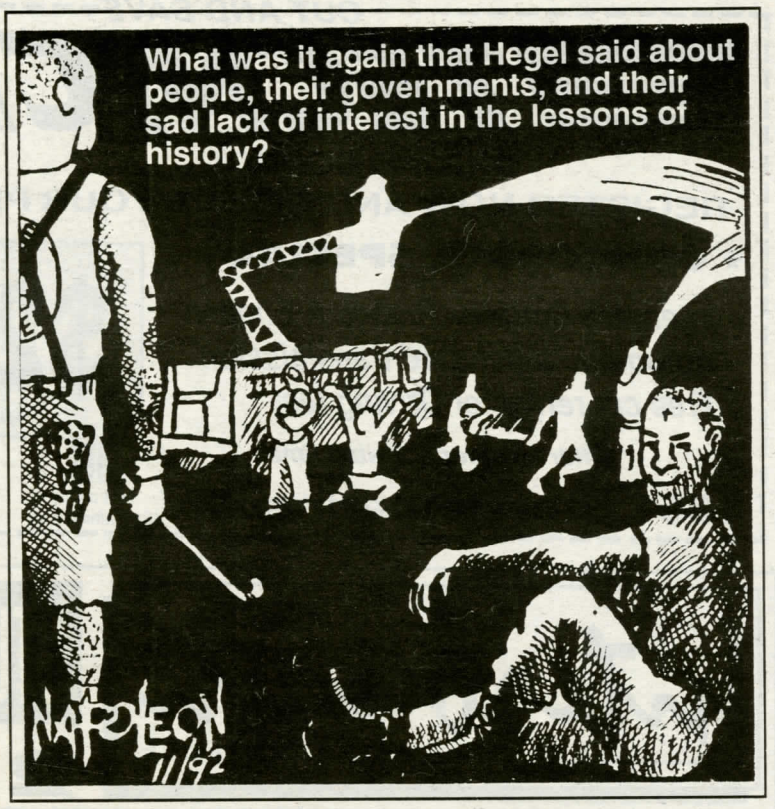
I am writing this letter to express my gratitude to the university community for its fantastic response to the crisis in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. With winter approaching in former Yugoslavia, and with thousands of refugees living in tents with practically nothing, I placed a very small ad in the "Back Page" of the Thursday Report and in the "Agenda" of the Link, asking for donations of clothing. The response was so overwhelming that I was taken completely by surprise. My apologies if I haven't been able to respond to inquiries right away, but I've been literally buried with generosity. It's great.

Unfortunately, all good things seem to come to an end sooner or later. The shipping company that formerly was shipping stuff overseas for free is now charging an arm and a leg, and the small Croatian community here in Montreal can't afford to send stuff overseas anymore. I really feel for these people, you know; these are their people they are trying to help, and not being able to do so anymore is really breaking their hearts.

If you are one of the many people who has called me wanting to give clothing, or are still considering doing so, I want to thank you for your generosity, even if I can no longer take any donations for Croatia (the warehouse is packed full). Please, don't let it sit in your home gathering dust any longer; I encourage you, instead, to still give it somewhere else.

Once again, many thanks to the university community. I wish I had better news. Stay tuned to the "Back Page" and the "Agenda", because if things improve those ads will go right back where they were before. Many thanks again.

Sincerely yours,
Thomas Dowd, B. Comm '92



Bugged by rugs

There are no rugs at Reggie's, there are no rugs at the Dive. There are no rugs at the Campus Center and no one have (*sic*) approached me to buy a rug on campus. Once someone approached me with a carpet but I never stepped on it. So what is this rug crisis on campus anyway?

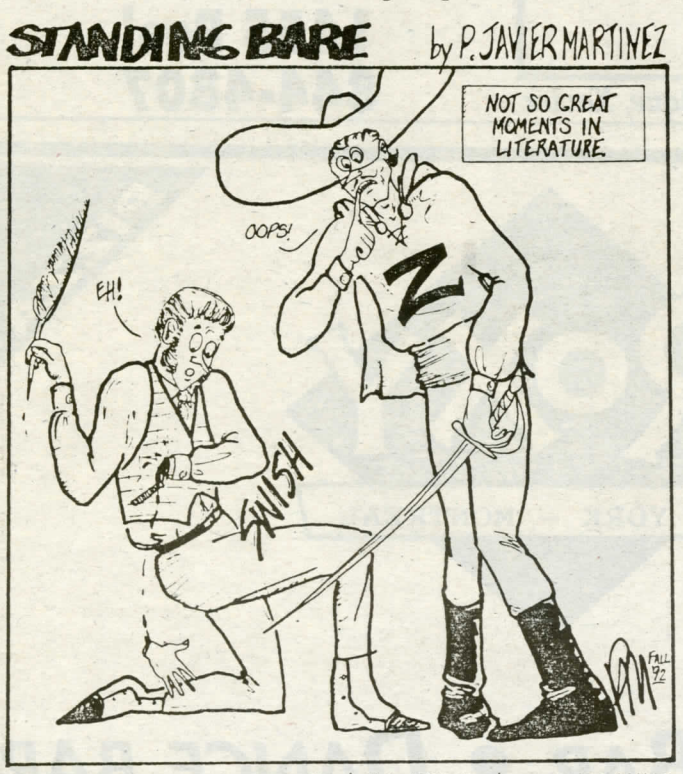
Confused,
Spanner McNeil

Post-26th, 1st 86'ed

Re: SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD

I'm so glad that this time (as opposed to the Plains of Abraham in the sixties) the beheading seems to be more along obvious federal-political lines as opposed to cultural linguistic lines. I feel safer already. The country said "no"on Oct. 26, and less than a month later, the 1st leader got his.

Spanner McNeil
Sociology



RECRUITING THE HELP OF A NOTED SWORDSMAN, AUTHOR HENRY GREENE SET OUT ON WHAT WOULD PROVE TO BE AN ILL-FATED ATTEMPT TO AFFIRM THE VERACITY OF AN EVERYDAY IDIOM.

the Link

Volume 13, Number 18
Tuesday, November 24, 1992

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Montreal, Quebec

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Fit bodies our "real" bodies

Feminists accurately maintain that mass media is cruel to women, constantly bombarding us with images of beautiful women in size 6 leotards which the majority of us can't squeeze ourselves into. As a result of this onslaught, many women can't help but hate their bodies. Negative body image can lead to eating disorders, ranging from excessive dieting, to anorexia nervosa and bulimia.

All this I agree with. But now some feminists are coming up with a new slant on the issue. An article in the '92-'93 Concordia student handbook entitled "IMAGEine loving your body" by Sarah (Fowlie) Fleischmann claims that a lean, muscular body is for a woman no more than "supposedly" healthy and implies that it is a form of self-mutilation for women to believe "that their thin bodies are their real bodies." They are now arguing that the health-consciousness of the nineties is just another name for the obsessive body-consciousness of the eighties. Women don't talk about grapefruit diets anymore, they talk about getting in shape, which these feminists maintain is no better.

As a feminist, I feel obliged to agree, but as an athelete, I simply can't. We don't all have beautiful faces and we can't all fit into a size 6, but that is no reason to let ourselves go to flab. You may not have a Sports-Illustrated-swimsuit-edition figure, but a *real* body is never shaped like an overstuffed sack of potatoes.

Maybe these feminists are wrong about it this time; maybe for all their disapproval of the mass-marketed image of the slender woman they are still failing to take affirmative control of their own bodies. And this whole issue is very much a matter of control. Either men manipulate women into letting themselves become too skinny and weak to do anything, or else women, who believe they are showing their resistance to male control by doing so, listen to these feminists, and let themselves get too overweight and out of shape to do anything. So that whether she diets or whether she sits on the couch and watches TV and eats potato chips, a woman is relegating herself to a passive role, which *supposedly* is everything we as feminists portend to be up against. A woman is no less in control of her body when she refuses to eat than she is when she lets is expand out all over the place.

First of all, you never can tell an athelete what to do with her body, let alone that her thin body is not her real body. For the record, this body swims six kilometres a day. This body sprints up Peel street to the foot of Mount Royal just to get warmed up. This body lifts weights, this body skips rope, this body plays catch with medicine balls. This body swims a hundred metre race in sixty seconds flat. This body gets up and *goes.* And yet, I am told, this body—this thin, fit, strong body—is not my *real* body. Well, there is *some* kind of body doing all this work and if it's not a *real* body, I don't know *what* is.

Second of all, a woman need not, as some feminists assume, subject herself to some form of pain in order to look good. There is something, discriminating, in fact, about this assumption. I feel targeted: it is as if I am being told that I am not a feminist just because I happen to have a great body. Some feminists take one look at me and assume that I must be either starving myself or killing myself at the gym, all in an effort to conform to standards of beauty imposed by men on women. What they don't realize is that all I am really doing is constantly trying to get in better and better shape, not because I want to please men, but because it pleases me to perform well in my sport, and to feel confident and energetic and to be healthy. Maintaining your ideal weight is not painful unless you've got a five-dollar-a-day chocolate bar habit.

But isn't it better to be active rather than passive? In theory, at least, this is what feminists like to purport. So why don't we put our theories to work? I consider myself a feminist, I'm fit and strong, I refuse to sit on my ass all day just because I'm a woman. You never hear me saying "I'm a woman, this is my body, fat and all, take it or leave it." Just because you're a woman doesn't mean you can't exercise.

And yet the fact is that in advertising—and in everyday life—more emphasis is places on women's bodies, reinforcing the perception of woman as a sexual object. Thus it naturally follows that more pressure is placed on women to be objects of a purely sexual nature; we are not encouraged to be ourselves.

But why must women's resistance to this oppression assume a passive form? Women are missing out on the opportunity to be *fit* and *strong* because they are afraid to be accused of pandering to male standards.

I have been lectured once too often by self-proclaimed "health-conscious" feminists who, while literally swallowing the last mouthful of a nainamo bar or its caloric equivalent, vow that they never touch junk food. What I want to know is, if these women are so satisfied with their bodies the way they are (take it or leave it) then why do they always end by telling me that I have the body "the rest of us would die for." Die for? You're not even willing enough to give up your chocolate bar a day for it. Die for indeed. It's easier to lie down dead than to get up and *do* something. So come on, *let's get in shape, girls!*

—Sue Skoda

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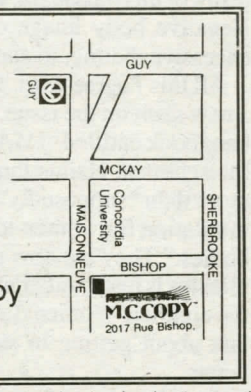

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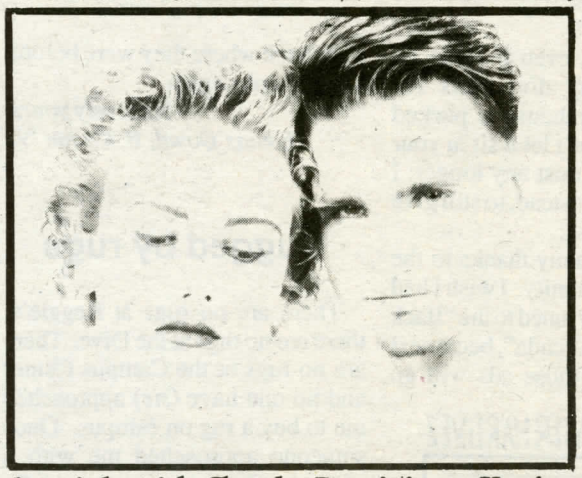

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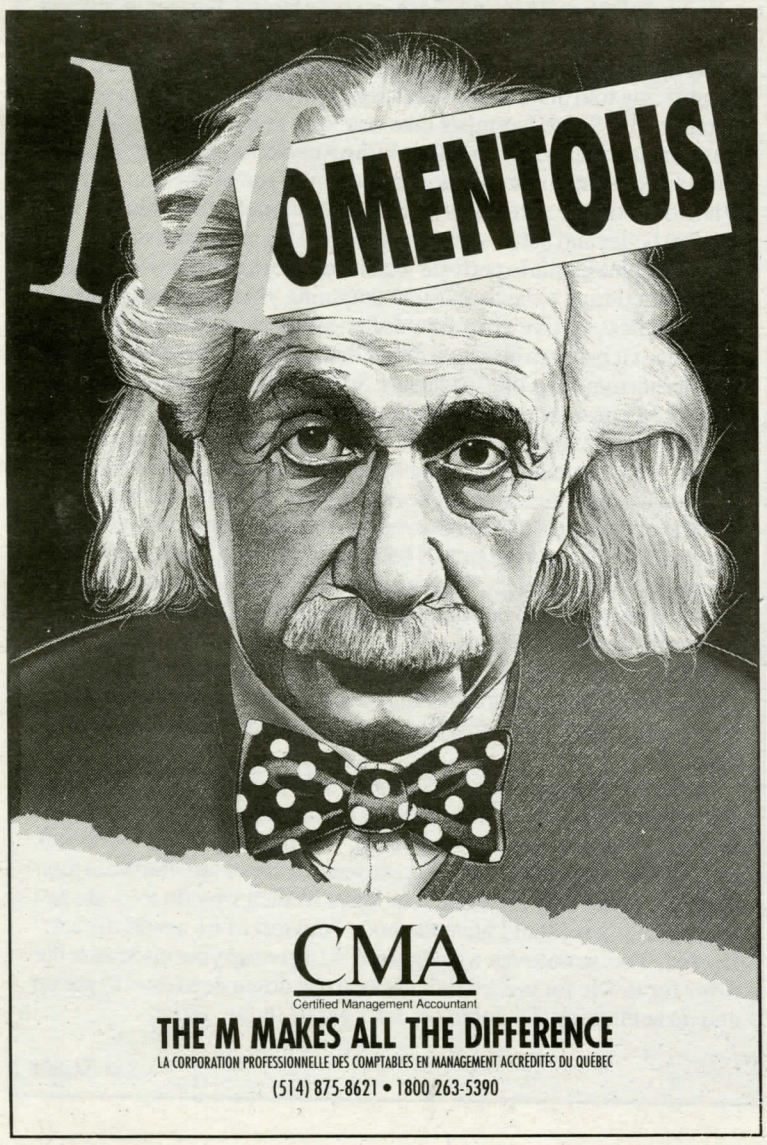

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